

Public Instruction to get approval. If it is otherwise, I think we can get it done.

SRI B. B. SAYANAK.—Sir, one Sri Kolate has approached the D.D.P.I. but he could not get the approval. I came to know that the D.D.P.I. is asking money from Sri Kolate. Therefore, I request the Minister to strictly direct the DDPI to accord approval without taking even a single pie.

SMT. NAGAMMA C. KESHAVA MURTHY.—Sir, this matter has been just now brought to my notice. It may be true or may not be true. Anyway, I will get the whole matter enquired and see that the approval is expedited.

### MATTER UNDER RULE 312

*Reg. Qurra conducted by the Karnataka State Haj Committee.*

SRI B. A. MOHIYUDDIN (Bantwal).—If there are more number of applicants who wish to go to haj-pilgrimage, we draw lots and choose the candidates. The process of drawing lots and selecting candidates is called as 'Qurra' in Arabic. We have conducted 'Qurra' because the number of applications were more than what was the quota allotted to the Karnataka State. For the first time in Karnataka, this type of drawing of lots have been arranged here. About 400 and odd lots should have been drawn, but instead of that they have drawn 600 and odd lots. Those people who have got their names included in the lot, their names have been published in the daily urdu 'Salar'. They were all happy and the persons whose names were included, have noted their names. Subsequently, what happened in my district and some other districts, is these names were changed. After sometime, the people who were happy and who were making arrangements to go on pilgrimage, their deposits were returned saying, their names were not in the lot i.e., 'Qurra'. As a result of which, in the minds of so many people a doubt has crept in that some thing fishy was done at the Haj-Committee level. Therefore, I demand that the original list which has been drawn in the presence of Haj-Committee Members and also Sri Mehabub Eermal, the representative from Bombay, must be placed on the floor of this House so that the suspicion that is lingering in the minds of people will go. I request the Hon. Minister concerned to see that the original list is placed before this House. And also I am very sorry to inform you about the irresponsible attitude of the Haj-Committee Secretary. When the Haj Committee Members sent telegrams to intimate them about the inclusions of their names in the list Qurra

drawn, this Secretary and his office did not have courtesy even to reply those telegrams.

10-00 A.M.

This is the attitude of the Officials working here. This is a very important, sentimental and touchy affair of Muslims because they will have prepared everything to go to Haj, and they will have made adequate arrangements for it. And even a reply-paid telegram has not been answered by the Haj Committee officials. I would request the Hon. Minister through the hon. Speaker to take action immediately in this behalf and place the original list that has been drawn at Qurra.

SRI A K. ABDUL SAMAD (Minister for Health & Family Welfare).—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make the following statement :

This year the State Haj Committee for the first time under-took to handle the 'Qurra' work in respect of Karnataka State for Haj Season 1982-83. The last date fixed for receipt of applications by the State Committee as per the announcement dated 10-3-1982 of the Central Haj Committee, Bombay was 19-4-1982, which was strictly adhered to. In all, 1395 applications had been received for the selection of 490 pilgrims from our State. All possible care was taken to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the 'Qurra' at Bangalore. The Executive Officer at Bombay visited Bangalore at the time of Qurra and assisted the State Haj Committee in the observance of all the procedural matters which were necessary for handling this item of work.

The date for holding 'Qurra' was fixed on 6-5-1982 *i.e.* in the first week of May 1982 on the advice of the Central Haj Committee, Bombay, and it was conducted accordingly in an open session and was concluded satisfactorily.

After 'Qurra' the necessary individual intimations were prepared and issued to the selected pilgrim applicants between 18-5-1982 and 25-5-1982. Thereafter, in respect of others their respective applications have been returned with see-fare demand drafts received from them.

The foreign exchange amount was previously being paid at the Haj Committee, Bombay, and the Haj pilgrims were experiencing a lot of inconveniences standing for hours in long queues for obtaining their foreign exchange drafts etc. The work of collection of individual demand drafts in Indian Currency for Rs. 9,625 from each selected pilgrim and sending one consolidated demand draft to the Haj Committee, Bombay, has also been undertaken by the State

Haj Committee to mitigate hardship to the fasting pilgrims at the Bombay Haj Office, and to facilitate delivery of foreign exchange drafts pilgraim passports, and Haj visas to them by the Haj Committee, Bombay.

As per the intimation from the Executive Officer of the Haj Committee, Bombay, 14th June 1982 had been fixed as the last date for receipt of demand drafts from the selected pilgrims towards the foreign exchange amount. It was later extended upto 30th June 1982 and consolidated demand draft is being sent well within the date of the first sail to Jeddah on 26th July 1982.

Thus, there has been no delay at any stage and no trouble has been caused to the pilgrims in any way.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member Sri B. A. Mohiuddin said that there must be something wrong with regard to the Qurra draw in our State Haj Committee level. The quota for the State of Karnataka is 490. There was a balance of 88 seats of the last year. So this year we had to give the seats to them first. For the remaining 402 seats during the current year Qurra was drawn. When Qurra was drawn, we kept 20 persons in reserve list. It was open to Hall and the numbers were announced publicly in the Banquet Hall of Vidhana Soudha itself during the Conference. First we announced the list of pilgrims who were sure to go. Then we announced the waiting list. I think that the pilgrims who were in the waiting list must have been under the impression that they were sure to go. We prepared the waiting list of 20 persons in the serial number order to accommodate them in case any of the pilgrims from the definite list did not come.

About a week ago complaints came to my notice that some of the pilgrims who were to go for Haj had not sent demand drafts. Then the Haj Committee sent telegrams to all those 35 pilgrims asking them whether they had sent Demand Drafts and if they do not send the demand drafts before 21st July, they would presume that they (pilgrims) were not interested in going to Haj and so they had option to give those seats to the persons in waiting list. So the State Haj Committee has taken due action. And if any papers have published the names without taking into consideration the reserve list, it is not the concern of the State Haj Committee. However, if the hon. Speaker desires that the original list prepared by the State Haj Committee as per the Qurra drawn be placed on the table of the House, I have no hesitation in doing so.

MR. SPEAKER.—Next item. Presentation of Report.